

GALERIE NATHALIE OBADIA

PARIS - BRUXELLES

Laure Prouvost

This is the visit

18 September - 31 October 2014

3, rue du Cloître Saint-Merri - 75004 Paris



The Nathalie Obadia Gallery is very pleased to present Laure Prouvost's first solo exhibition in France. Winner of the prestigious Turner Prize in 2013, and the first French artist ever to have been awarded this prize, Laure Prouvost, who is based in London, will present a group of new works in the same vein as the prize-winning piece *Wantee* (2013) which tells the story of her fictional grandfather, a friend of Kurt Schwitters', who is supposed to have mysteriously disappeared while digging a conceptual tunnel to Africa, and of her video *Grandma's dream* (2013) in which Laure Prouvost immerses us in the imaginary world of her likewise fictional grandmother.

As a continuation of these two major works, the artist occupies the gallery and invites us into the *Visitor Center*, built by her grandmother and grandchildren in honor of her husband and grandfather still to this day, missing. Visitors follow the path of the exhibition as indicated by a platform which leads them toward installations, tapestries, paintings, videos and sculptures, plunging them into an enveloping experience of sound and light. Two of the tapestries, made using collages by the artist, are animated through a system using film projection; a spiral staircase invites the visitor to climb upwards toward a video. Panels act as markers indicating the route to be taken step-by-step. SIGN paintings deconstruct the exhibition space and suggest an alternative *ideal* arrangement, while the video *Burrow Me* invites us to follow the traces of a thrilling breakaway.

Viewers become accomplices when they enter this concocted museum and, in so doing, pay homage to the missing grandfather. The artist questions the visitor about the imprecise boundaries that separate reality from fiction, to better give him/her a central presence in the reception of her installations.

By proposing a particularly innovative, singular and organic body of work, Laure Prouvost develops a coherent and penetrating narrative in her work using fantasy and humor, amongst other things.

An archivist of images, objects, words, crafts, fictions and documents, she captures the daily flow of images and texts that assail us, in order to isolate the extraordinary associations and combinations that will specifically serve her stories and the chronicle of her work in general. Through a rough and fairly unscrupulous approach to the principles of translation, a disconcerting facility for dealing with notions of appearance, hypothesis and ambiguity in the bogus myths she offers us, along with the suggestive idea that a drama, breakdown or failure is always possible (does anyone know if the grandfather will ever return?) Laure Prouvost methodically constructs a substantial and indispensable body of work.

Although she plays with the effects that these incidences and accidents provoke, the very real perspective of an ideal world can be glimpsed in the generosity and the uncontrived fantasy and exhilaration that she brings to her work.

Born in 1978 in Croix-Lille, Laure Prouvost lives and works in London

Laure Prouvost received a Bachelor of Fine Arts from the Central Saint Martins, London, in 2002 and a Master of Fine Arts from Goldsmiths College, London in 2010 before becoming one of the most highly visible artists on the international contemporary art scene.

Her recent solo exhibitions have been seen in prestigious institutions including: the New Museum, New York (*For Forgetting*, 2014), Extra City Kunsthall, Anvers (*From Wantee to Some Signs*, 2014), the Whitechapel Gallery, London and the Collezione Maramotti, Reggio Emilia (*Farfromwords* 2013), the Fondation Morra Greco, Naples (*Polpomotorino*, 2013), the Tate Britain (*Schwitters in Britain*, 2013), the Lyon Biennial (*Entretemps... Brusquement, Et ensuite*, 2013), the TPW Gallery, Toronto, and the Contemporary Art Society, London (*Display: Laure Prouvost*, 2013), the Institute for Contemporary Art, London (*The Wanderer*, 2013), Frieze Projects and the Tate Britain (*Art Now Lightbox: Laure Prouvost: It, heat, hit*, 2011 and 2010 respectively). Laure Prouvost will exhibit at Neuer Berliner Kunstverein, Berlin in 2014, and will do a performance for the 2014 FIAC at the Grand Palais.

Laure Prouvost was awarded the Turner Prize in 2013, the Max Mara Prize for Women in 2011, was a Principle Prize Winner in the 56th and 57th Oberhausen Short Film Festival in 2010 and 2011, and was the recipient of the EAST International Award in 2009.

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Bourg-Tibourg

Mickalene Thomas
Femme au divan I
11 September - 28 October 2014

Guillaume Bresson
5 November - 24 December 2014
Opening on the 5th, november

Jessica Stockholder
January - February 2015

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10 September - 25 October 2014

Michael DeLucia
6 November - 20 December 2014
Opening on the 6th, november

Meuser
8 January - 14 February
Opening on the 8th, January

For further information, please contact Maimiti Cazalis
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En proposant un travail particulièrement novateur, singulier et organique, Laure Prouvost développe dans son oeuvre une trame narrative cohérente et pénétrante, dont le fantasque et l'humour ne sont pas les seules ressources.

Archiviste d'images, d'objets, de mots, d'artisanats, de fictions et de documents, elle rançonne le flux quotidien d'images et de textes qui nous assaille pour isoler les prodigieuses associations et combinaisons qui serviront en particulier ses histoires et la chronique de son oeuvre en général. Au travers d'une approche approximative et peu scrupuleuse des principes de la traduction, une facilité déconcertante à traiter les notions d'apparence, d'hypothèse et d'ambiguïté dans les mythologies montées de toutes pièces qu'elle nous donne à voir et l'idée indicative qu'un drame, une défaillance ou un échec est toujours possible – sait-on si le grand-père reviendra jamais? Laure Prouvost construit méthodiquement une oeuvre consistante et nécessaire.

Et si elle se joue des effets de ces incidences et accidents, la perspective bien réelle d'un monde idéal se laisse entrevoir dans la générosité qu'elle apporte à son travail, comme au travers de fantaisies et de gaietés jamais affectées.

Née en 1978 à Croix-Lille, Laure Prouvost vit et travaille à Londres, Royaume-Uni

Titulaire d'un Bachelor of Fine Arts du Central Saint Martins (Londres, 2002) et d'un Master of Fine Arts du Goldsmiths College (Londres, 2010), Laure Prouvost est l'une des artistes les plus reconnues de la scène contemporaine internationale.

Elle a récemment bénéficié d'expositions personnelles dans des institutions prestigieuses, notamment au New Museum avec *For Forgetting* (New York, 2014), à Extra City Kunsthalle, avec *From Wantee to Some Signs* (Anvers, 2014), à la Whitechapel Gallery (Londres, 2013), et à la Collezione Maramotti (Reggio Emilia, 2013) pour *Farfromwords*, à la Fondation Morra Greco avec *Polpomotorino* (Naples, 2013), à la Tate Britain pour *Schwitters in Britain* (Londres, 2013), à la Biennale de Lyon pour *Entretemps... Brusquement, Et ensuite* (Lyon, 2013), à la Gallery TPW (Toronto, 2013), à la Contemporary Art Society pour *Display: Laure Prouvost* (Londres, 2013), à l'Institute for Contemporary Art pour *The Wanderer* (Londres, 2013), à Frieze Projects (Londres, 2011), à la Tate Britain avec *Art Now Lightbox: Laure Prouvost: It, heat, hit* (Londres, 2010). Laure Prouvost exposera prochainement au Neuer Berliner Kunstverein (Berlin, 2014), et réalisera une performance pour l'édition 2014 de la FIAC au Grand Palais.

Laure Prouvost a été lauréate du Turner Prize en 2013, du Max Mara Prize for Women en 2011, du Principle Prize Winner, de la 56ème et 57ème édition du Oberhausen Short Film Festival en 2010 et 2011, du EAST International Award en 2009.

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